

REMARKS

Claims 15-74 are pending and Claims 1-14, 75 and 76 are withdrawn from consideration. An Office Action mailed December 17, 2003 identified an election of claims, indicated the need for a proper priority claim, rejected Claims 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 38, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60, 62, 64, 66, 68, 70, 72, and 74 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, rejected Claims 15-28, 31-42, 51-52, 55-58, and 69-74 under 35 U.S.C. § 102, rejected Claims 29-30, 45-50, 53-54, and 59-62 under 35 U.S.C. § 103, and indicated that Claims 44, 64, 66, and 68 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112 and to include all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. By way of this amendment, Applicants hereby amend the specification, cancel Claims 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60, 62, 64, 66, 68, 70, 72, 74, and 76, and add new Claims 77-110. Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.111, Applicants hereby respectfully request reconsideration of the application.

PRIORITY CLAIM

The Office Action indicates that an application in which the benefits of an earlier application are desired must contain a specific reference to the prior application(s) in the first sentence of the specification or in an application data sheet. Applicants hereby amend the specification on page 1 to include reference to the priority claim that was included in the Declaration.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112, SECOND PARAGRAPH

The Office Action rejected Claims 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 38, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 46, 58, 60, 62, 64, 66, 68, 70, 72, and 74 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Applicants hereby cancel Claims 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 38, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 46, 58, 60, 62, 64, 66, 68, 70, 72, 74 and added new Claims 77-106 that now comply with the noted rejection. Applicants submit that new Claim 77-106 are definite and particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Office Action rejected Claims 15-28, 31-42, 51-52, 55-58, and 69-74 as being anticipated by Emens. The Office Action states that Emens teaches a program which assembles data relating to objects on two or more source sites where such data is gathered from a file that is not part of any of the objects and the file contains data entered by Emens about at least one of the objects. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Applicants submit that Emens discloses a method for rating automatically generated documents that allows for user flexibility in the definition of objectionable content. Emens fails to teach or suggest that each of the other computers stores a plurality of objects assembling data relating to these objects at a cataloging site and ranking some of the assembled data as a function of ranking rules. Emens is motivated to rate hypermedia for objectionable content and does not rank relative to other sites. Therefore, Applicants submit that independent Claim 15 is allowable over the cited reference. Because independent Claims 27, 45, and 51 are similar to independent Claim 15, they are allowable for the same reasons that make Claim 15 allowable. Applicants submit that new independent Claims 77, 83, 92, and 95 include similar subject matter to Claim 15, therefore they are allowable for the same reasons that make Claim 15 allowable. Because Claims 17-25, 29-43, 47, 49, 53-73, 78-82, 84-91, 93, 94, and 96-106 depend from allowable independent claims, they are allowable for the same reasons that make their corresponding independent claims allowable.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Office Action rejected Claims 29-30, 45-50, 53-54, 59-62 as being unpatentable over Emens et al. in view of Culliss.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

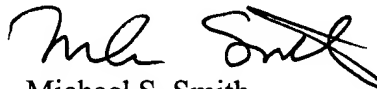
Claims 44, 64, 66, and 68 were indicated as being allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Applicants hereby submit Claims 107-110 that include the subject matter of Claims 44, 64, 66, and 68 respectively, but have been rewritten in independent form to include all the limitations of their base claims and any intervening claims. Therefore, Applicants submit that new claims 107-110 are allowable over the cited references.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that all of the claims of the pending application are now in condition for allowance over the cited references. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections, allowance, and early passage through issuance. If the examiner has any questions, the examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' agent listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

BLACK LOWE & GRAHAM^{PLLC}




Michael S. Smith
Registration No. 39,563
Direct Dial: 206.749.9888

MAIL CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this communication is being deposited with the United States Postal Service via first class mail under 37 C.F.R. § 1.08 on the date indicated below addressed to: MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

5/17/04
Date of Deposit



Michelle J. Carman